

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04
ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 AF-08
ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /120 W
-----042349Z 055422 /66

R 041700Z APR 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6414

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2547

EO 11652: XGDS 1

TAGS: GATT, ETRD,IHU, FI

SUBJ: GATT WP ON FINLAND-HUNGARIAN TRADE AGREEMENT

1. SUBJECT WP WILL RECONVENE MAY 9-10. LAST SESSION WAS HELD IN 1975; SEE 75 GENEVA 7448 AND GATT DOCUMENT L/4230. LATTER DOCUMENT CONTAINED CONCLUSIONS TO EFFECT THAT SOME MEMBERS OF WP FELT AGREEMENT WAS CONSISTENT WITH GATT WHILE OTHERS "COULD NOT EXPRESS A VIEW ON THE BASIS OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION".

2. FINLAND AND HUNGARY HAVE PROMISED PROVIDE UPDATED DOCUMENTATION FOR MEETING, TO INCLUDE RECENT TRADE STATISTICS. GATT SECRETARIAT EXPECTS DOCUMENTS TO BE AVAILABLE WEEK 18 APRIL; WILL FORWARD WASHINGTON WHEN RECEIVED.

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3. WASHINGTON WILL RECALL RECENT EC REQUEST THAT U.S. BASE ITS QUESTIONING IN GATT WP'S ON EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ON SPECIFIC TRADE REGULATIONS IN FORCE. IN THIS RESPECT, WE HOPE WASHINGTON CAN PROVIDE US INSTRUCTIONS WHICH WILL DESIGN OUR QUESTIONS AROUND SPECIFIC HUNGARIAN DECREES OR LAWS OR POLICIES AFFECT-INT IMPORTS FROM CEMA COUNTRIES, ACCOUNTABILITY

OF FOREIGN TRADE ORGANIZATIONS TO CENTRAL ECONOMIC PLAN,
HUNGARIAN EXPORT PRICING PRACTICES, ETC.

4. HUNGARIANS REPORTEDLY HAVE ASKED FOR THIS MEETING
WITH AIM OF COMPLETING THE WORKING PARTY'S TASK. WE
VIEW IT AS HIGHLY UNLIKELY THAT WP COULD REACH CONCLU-
SIONS WHICH ARE ANYTHING OTHER THAN DIVIDED; INDEED WE
CANNOT IMAGINE HOW U.S. COULD SUBSCRIBE TO A FINAL CON-
CLUSION WHICH SAID THAT A DISCRIMINATORY TRADE AGREE-
MENT BETWEEN A MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRY AND A STATE TRAD-
ING, CENTRALLY PLANNED, COUNTRY COULD BE CONSISTENT
WITH ARTICLE XXIV OF THE GATT. CONVERSELY, HOWEVER,
AND IN THE INTERESTS OF MAINTAINING FLEXIBILITY AND EN-
COURAGING EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES TO LIBERALIZE THEIR
ECONOMIC REGIMES, BELIEVE WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO PURSUE
THE FORMULA OF "NOT BEING ABLE EXPRESS A VIEW ON
BASIS AVAILABLE INFORMATION". IT MIGHT BE WELL FOR U.S.
TO REPEAT LANGUAGE WE USED IN FINLAND-GDR AGREEMENT WP TO
EFFECT THAT WE HAVE OPEN MIND BUT BELIEVE SERIOUS QUES-
TIONS ARE RAISED. SEE QUESTION 35 OF STATE 26100. SORENSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS, NEGOTIATIONS, PLANNING MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: ETRD, HU, FI, GATT
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